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front legs and feet gray, the hind legs tinted on the under surface with blood red. The eye was large and very brilliant, the iris brassy with fine black reticulations. The pupil was very sensitive to light. There were two broad, grayish stripes on the back, and one on each side of the body. The glands were usually darker than the surrounding skin and in some examples scattered glands bore brick red caps, which with darker rings appeared as ocelli. Some specimens were lighter than others, and an occasional one had a strong infusion of pale reddish brown.

On the evening of June 2, 1911, I happened upon a small pond separated from the water of Pyramid Lake by a narrow bar. The pond was but a few feet in width, and perhaps a hundred feet long. The water was clear and slightly alkaline like that of the lake. In it were hundreds of spadefoots depositing their eggs in masses one layer deep on the upper surfaces of small rocks. The eggs were not piled up after the manner of frogs, nor were they in strings like those of toads. One mass presented fresh eggs and likewise others in which development was marked, plainly indicating that the mass was made of at least two contributions.

During the following night a continued croaking chorus was at times plainly heard, but it ceased at dawn, and shortly after break of day all the toads had disappeared and they returned no more. Diligent search under rocks and in the sand nearby was not rewarded by a single specimen.

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Bufo fowleri IN LOUISIANA AND TEXAS

At the third meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists I reported the presence of *Bufo fowleri* in Louisiana (*Copeia*, No. 53, p. 13, 1918). Six specimens collected at Creston, Natchitoches Parish, in northwestern Louisiana, in

the spring of 1915, are in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of Cornell University. The voice was identical with that of *Bufo fowleri* of the Atlantic Coastal Plain.

Beyer (1900, Proc. La. Soc. Nat., 1897-1899, Appendix I, p. 11) records *Bufo lentiginosus americanus* as common in Louisiana, and Strecker identifies the common toad of the wooded area of eastern Texas under the same name (1915, Baylor Bull., XVIII, No. 4, p. 53). There can be no doubt that the species referred to is really *Bufo fowleri*.

B. fowleri, therefore, is the dominant *Bufo* on the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain, extending as far west as the open plains of Texas. In the central states its distribution appears to be much more local.

The ecological and seasonal relations of *Bufo fowleri* and *Bufo terrestris* offer an interesting subject for observation.

KARL P. SCHMIDT,
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Crotalus horridus RATTLES FOR HALF HOUR

For five days a *Crotalus horridus*, just captured in the Ramapo Hills of New York and kept in a glass cage, exhibited a tendency to rattle whenever disturbed and to continue the rattling until left by himself.

Believing that the rattling always was a warning, I placed the cage on a table to see how long the reptile would continue to agitate his tail.

For fifteen minutes he held his head tensely, as though ready to strike. Except for momentary pauses the rattling continued steadily. I moved from side to side and the snake followed my movements with his eyes.

Then slowly he relaxed and began rubbing his nose against the glass, with characteristic tongue movements. All evidences of fear or nervousness disappeared, but the rattling continued.